

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 EB-08 CA-01 SCS-06
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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8067

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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EO 11652 NA

TAGS EFIS BR

SUBJECT: SHRIMP FISHING

REF: BRASILIA 5003

1. AMB JOAO HERMES PEREIRA DE ARAUJO, CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT OF AMERICAS, ITAMARATY, ASKED DCM TO CALL JUNE 27.

2. HE BEGAN HIS PRESENTATION BY REFERRING TO CONVERSATION BY EMB ECON OFF MARSHALL WITH COUNSELOR PEREZ, CHIEF OF ITAMARATY BASIC PRODUCTS DIVISION, CONCERNING SHRIMP FISHING (REFTEL). AFTER REITERATING BRAZILIAN NAVY'S DENIAL THAT ITS RECENT SEIZURES OF US FISHING VESSELS HAD TAKEN PLACE IN FRENCH WATERS, JOAO HERMES MENTIONED THAT MARSHALL HAD ALLUDED TO JUNE 22 VANCE-SILVEIRA DISCUSSION OF SHRIMP PROBLEMS. HE SAID ITAMARATY WANTED EMBASSY TO BE FULLY INFORMED ABOUT VANCE-SILVEIRA TALK, AND THEN PROCEEDED TO PARAPHRASE LENGTHY DOCUMENT. DEPT MAY BE INTERESTED IN ITAMARATY VERSION OF CONVERSATION.

3. ACCORDING TO JOAO HERMES, AFTER SILVEIRA SPOKE OF PROBLEM CREATED BY ILLEGAL SHRIMPING BY US BOATS IN BRAZILIAN WATERS,
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SECRETARY VANCE MENTIONED DESIRABILITY OF "TECHNICAL UNDERSTANDINGS DESIGNED TO AVOID MISUNDERSTANDINGS." IN THIS CONTEXT HE MENTIONED POSSIBILITY THAT STEPS MIGHT BE TAKEN TO IMPEDE ENTRY OF BRAZILIAN SHRIMP INTO US. SILVEIRA REITERATED REMARKS ABOUT LARGE-SCALE ILLEGAL FISHING IN BRAZILIAN WATERS BY US VESSELS, STATING US AMBASSADOR WAS BEING CALLED INTO ITAMARATY. JOAO HERMES CONTINUED THAT SILVEIRA RESPONDED TO "INSINUATION OF RETALIATION" BY

POINTING OUT THAT US ALWAYS HAD A FAVORABLE BALANCE OF TRADE WITH BRAZIL, EVEN IN THESE DAYS OF HEAVY BRAZILIAN IMPORTS OF PETROLEUM, AND THEREFORE ANY DISCUSSION OF COMMERCIAL RETALIATION IN CONNECTION WITH FISHING BOAT PROBLEM WAS INAPPROPRIATE. SILVEIRA SAID THAT IF THIS RETALIATION TAKES PLACE, BRAZIL WILL TRY TO FIND OTHER MARKETS

FOR ITS EXPORTS.

4. JOAO HERMES POINTEDLY STATED THAT SECRETARY VANCE DID NOT RAISE POSSIBILITY OF "RENEWING" FISHING AGREEMENT, BUT IF HE HAD, RESPONSE WOULD HAVE BEEN NEGATIVE SINCE GOB HAS NEW POLICY WHICH INVOLVES JOINT VENTURE ARRANGEMENTS.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: JOAO HERMES EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN SEEING US FISHERY LEGISLATION PROVIDING FOR RETALIATORY ACTION. PLEASE CONFIRM THAT APPROPRIATE PROVISION OF LAW IS SECTION 205 OF FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976.
SAYRE

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